

Table 3-4: Population Distribution in the Denali National Park and Preserve Region, 2000

Geographical Area	Population			Annualized Growth Rate	
	1980	1990	2000	% per year 1990-2000	Relative Growth Rate
State of Alaska	401,851	550,043	626,932	1.3	Moderate
Denali Borough	na <sup>a</sup>	1,764	1,893	0.7	Low
Anderson City	517	628	367	-5.2	Negative
Cantwell CDP	89	147	222	4.2	High
Ferry CDP	na	56	29	-6.4	Negative
Healy CDP	334	586 <sup>b</sup>	1,000	5.5	High
McKinley Park CDP	60	171	142	-1.8	Negative
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	17,816	39,683	59,322	4.1	High
Petersville CDP	na	na	27	na	
Talkeetna CDP	264	250	772	na <sup>c</sup>	High
Trapper Creek CDP	na	296	423	3.6	High
Lake Minchumina CDP	22	32	32	0.0	Stable
Nikolai	91	109	100	-0.4	Negative
Telida	33	11	3	-12.2	Negative
Municipality of Anchorage	174,431	226,338	260,283	1.4	Moderate
Fairbanks-North Star Borough	53,983	77,720	82,840	0.6	Low

a. Denali Borough was incorporated on December 7, 1990.

b. 1990 population figure for Healy CDP includes Lignite CDP, which was reported separately only in that year.

c. The Talkeetna CDP was enlarged in 2000 so population numbers are not directly comparable to 1990 figures.

CDP = Census Designated Place

na = not available

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 1980, 1990, and 2000 Census of Population & Housing

The community school is part of the Iditarod Area Schools, though attendance in the past has been limited. Many of the residents run dog teams for transportation and most practice a subsistence lifestyle (DCED 2000).

- Nikolai

Nikolai is located approximately 65 miles west of Denali National Park and Preserve (Map 3-2: Cities, Towns, and Boroughs) and is incorporated as a second-class city. The city has no road connection but is accessible via air (2,350-foot gravel airstrip) or water (Kuskokwim River). Nikolai is historically an Athabascan Indian village that has been relocated at least twice since 1880. Nikolai has been at its current location since 1918. The community now supports a post office and school. The city school is part of the Iditarod Area Schools. Most of its residents practice a subsistence lifestyle.

- Telida

The community of Telida is located approximately 15 miles west of the park boundary (Map 3-2: Cities, Towns, and Boroughs). The community is not incorporated and is primarily accessible via air (2,270-foot airstrip). Telida is historically an Athabascan Indian village that has been relocated three times since the 1890s. Telida has been at its current location since 1916. The community had a local school in the 1970s; but the population has since declined, and the school is now closed. The community's residents practice a subsistence lifestyle.

### Demographics

The population of the Denali region is growing, albeit very unevenly. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the communities of Talkeetna and Trapper Creek show particularly vigorous growth, particularly when compared to the more moderate growth of the large cities of Anchorage and Fairbanks (see Table 3-4: Population Distribution in the Denali National Park and Preserve Region). The Mat-Su Borough is known as the fastest growing area in the state (Fried 2000).